

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 035009

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:BTRA, PDIP, UR

SUBJECT: DIFFICULTIES EXPERIENCED BY US BUSINESS TRAVELERS
TO USSR

REF: (A) STATE 23415 (B) MOSCOW 1139

1. NAZAROV AND TISHCHENKO OF USSR TRADE REPRESENTATION
CALLED ON EUR/SOV (EDGAR), FEB 9, TO REPORT SOVIET VERSION
OF INCIDENT AT AIRPORT DESCRIBED REF B. NAZAROV SAID
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE, AFTER THOROUGH INVESTIGATION OF
JAMBOR'S ALLEGATIONS, DENIED THAT HIS LUGGAGE OR PERSON HAD
BEEN SUBJECTED TO ANY SEARCH WHATSOEVER. SOVIET CUSTOMS
OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, DID MAKE HIM VERIFY THAT THE AMOUNT OF
FOREIGN CURRENCY HE WAS CARRYING WAS IDENTICAL TO THE SUM
REPORTED ON HIS CUSTOMS DECLARATION. NAZAROV SUGGESTED
THAT THIS MIGHT HAVE AGITATED JAMBOR AND CAUSED HIM TO
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"EXAGGERATE".

2. AS FOR LEKUCH'S FAILURE TO RECEIVE VISA, NAZAROV
REPORTED THAT MFT OFFICIALS SAID CASE WAS NOT WITHIN THEIR
COMPETENCE AND SUGGESTED IT BE RAISED WITH SOVIET
CONSULAR AUTHORITIES.

3. NAZAROV CONCLUDED HIS REMARKS WITH HOPE THAT EXPLANATION

WAS SATISFACTORY AND THAT JAMBOR INCIDENT WOULD NOW BE
SEEN IN TTS PROPER LIGHT. WE REPLIED THAT INCIDENT
HAD BEEN DESCRIBED DIFFERENTLY TO OUR EMBASSY, BUT
EXPRESSED APPRECIATION THAT SOVIET AUTHORITIES HAD LOOKED
INTO THE MATTER. VANCE

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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